

Notice of Funding Opportunity (NOFO) Webinar

NIJ FY 2025 Research and Evaluation of Artificial Intelligence for Criminal Justice Purposes

Grants.gov Opportunity ID: **O-NIJ-2025-172615**

NOFO Post Date: **May 14, 2026**

NOFO Close Date: **June 15, 2026**

NIJ FY25 Research and Evaluation of Emerging Technology Implementation and Impact for Law Enforcement Purposes

Grants.gov Opportunity ID: **O-NIJ-2025-172616**

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Webinar Participants:

National Institute of Justice, Office of Technology and Standards

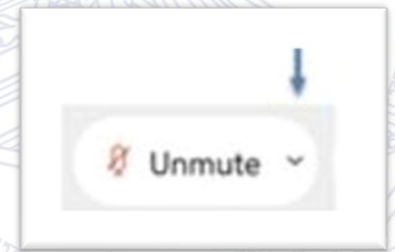
Mark Greene (Office Director), Jill Barnas, Steve Schuetz



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Important Information for Today's Webinar

- **Having difficulties hearing?** Click the **caret** next to the **Mute/Unmute** icon to make adjustments or call in to the Webex from your phone.
- **Live-captioning:** Click on **Multimedia Viewer** to access.
- **Questions about the presentation?** Use the **Q&A box** to submit questions any time during the presentation. Questions will be answered at the end of the presentation.



Today's Webinar

- Welcome
- NOFO Overview, Goals, and Objectives
- Specific Information
- Application Submission Process and Review
- Support and Resources
- Q & A



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NIJ FY 2025 Research and Evaluation of Artificial Intelligence for Criminal Justice Purposes - Overview

- Recent changes in AI capabilities are finding their way into many products and services, including those designed for, marketed to, and used by criminal justice agencies.
- This program seeks to build on the prior NIJ efforts to improve the effectiveness of criminal justice processes through AI applications to enhance crime prevention, public safety, and decision-making.
- NIJ expects to fund studies that explore and examine the suitability of using AI to solve operational problems, as well as evaluate the impacts and outcomes when integrated into criminal justice practice.



Goal & Objective

Goal: Generate new knowledge that enhances the effectiveness of AI in criminal justice and addresses potential risks by supporting research that advances the understanding and application of AI in criminal justice, including projects that explore innovative uses of AI, evaluate existing systems, or develop methodologies for testing and improving AI technologies.

Objective: Support the development of innovative research projects that explore new applications or methodologies for AI in combating violent crime, immigration enforcement, and other law enforcement activities, including the evaluation of existing AI technologies in practice, advancing knowledge and practices in the field.



NIJ FY25 Research and Evaluation of Emerging Technology Implementation and Impact for Law Enforcement Purposes

- Overview

- Many law enforcement agencies continue to grapple with fundamental questions of whether new technologies have led to better outcomes, what the actual returns on investments are, and whether the new capabilities have been deployed in the best manner.
- NIJ expects to fund research and evaluations of technology implementations to guide the law enforcement community on the best ways to implement technology to solve contemporary problems in policing and understand the factors that contribute to successful technology implementations.



NIJ FY25 Research and Evaluation of Emerging Technology Implementation and Impact for Law Enforcement Purposes

- Overview

- NIJ welcomes research and evaluation on the growing use of small-unmanned aircraft systems, or drones, such as “drones as first responders” (DFR) capabilities.
- NIJ also welcomes research and evaluation on the use of artificial intelligence, such as the effectiveness of integrating advanced threat detection technology with existing security cameras in public areas and other efforts to retrofit existing security infrastructure.



Goal & Objective

Goal: Create rigorous evaluations of technology implementations for law enforcement purposes and generate new knowledge that provides practical evidence to law enforcement practitioner audiences to inform policy and practice.

Objective 1: Support the development of innovative research projects that rigorously evaluates technology implementations for law enforcement purposes.

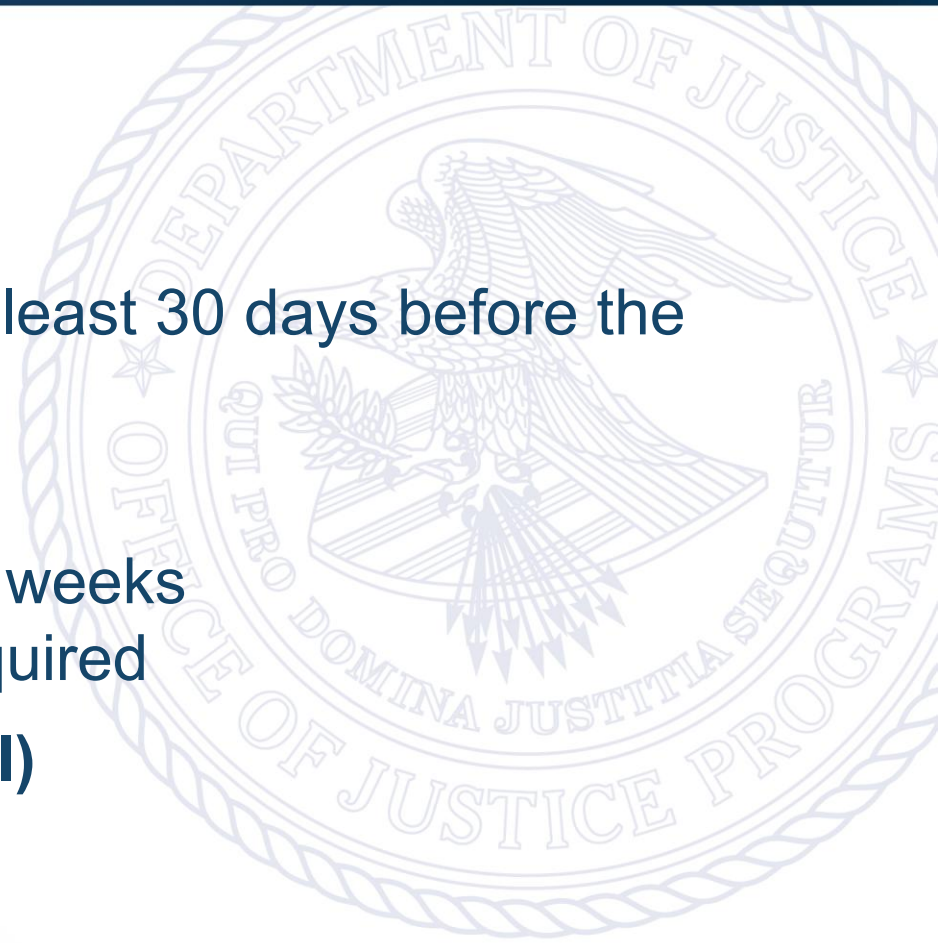
Objective 2: Generate studies that examine technology as a solution to other operational challenges, such as recruitment, retention, and training of sworn and nonsworn personnel or other staffing issues.



Before You Apply For Funding

SAM.gov Registration – recommend beginning at least 30 days before the first application deadline

- Register/confirm “active” registration status
 - First-time registration – may take several weeks
 - Existing registration – annual renewal required
- Obtain/confirm **Unique Entity Identifier (UEI)**
- Identify current SAM.gov points of contact



Application Submission and Review Process

Phase 1: Concept Paper Submission

- NIJ Internal Merit Review
- Invitations for Full Proposals

Phase 2: Submission of Full Application (Upon Invitation)

- External Merit Subject Matter Expert Review
- Award Decisions



Phase 1: Submission of Concept Paper

Step 1: Grants.gov - complete *at least* 48 hours before deadline in NOFO

- Register/confirm registration
- Add/confirm users and their roles
- Complete the Application for Federal Assistance (SF-424)

You can complete the first two actions at any time. Check the [Grants.gov Quick Start Guide](#) for more tips.



Phase 1: Submission of Concept Paper

Step 2: JustGrants- complete *at least* 48 hours before deadline in NOFO

- Register/confirm access
- Submit Concept Paper Package (**7 pages total**)
 - One cover page with the project title and contact information
 - Four-page narrative describing the project*
 - One page outlining the applicant's capabilities (e.g., biographical sketch, institutional resources)
 - One page budget sketch

*Any content submitted that exceeds the four-page limit will not be reviewed.



What Happens Next?

After the JustGrants application deadline, OJP starts its review process:

- Basic Minimum Requirements
- Responsiveness to NOFO
- NIJ Internal Merit Review
- Invitations for full proposals



Phase 2: Submission of Full Application (Upon Invitation)

Step 2: JustGrants

Complete the full application in JustGrants

- Standard Applicant Information
- Proposal Abstract
- Proposal Narrative
- Budget and Associated Documentation
- Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) and Other Supportive Documents
- Additional Application Components
- Disclosures and Assurances



What Happens Next?

After the JustGrants application deadline, OJP starts its review process:

- Basic Minimum Requirements
- Merit Review with External SME peer reviewers
- Programmatic and Financial Review
- Risk Review



Award Notices

Visit the OJP Grant Awards public website: ojp.gov/funding/ojpgrantawards

Funded applications:

- Notifications sent via JustGrants
- Accept or decline award within 45 days
- Follow steps in [DOJ Award Acceptance Checklist](#)



All funding decisions are made at the discretion of the NIJ Director.



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Support

OJP Response Center

- Phone: (800) 851-3420
- Email: ojp.responsecenter@usdoj.gov

Grants.gov

- Phone: (800) 518-4726
- Email: support@grants.gov

JustGrants

- Toll-free: (833) 872-5175
- Email: JustGrants.Support@usdoj.gov



Resources

OJP Funding Resource Center:

- <https://www.ojp.gov/funding>

DOJ Grants Financial Guide:

- <https://www.ojp.gov/funding/financialguidedoj/overview>

NIJ Funding FAQs:

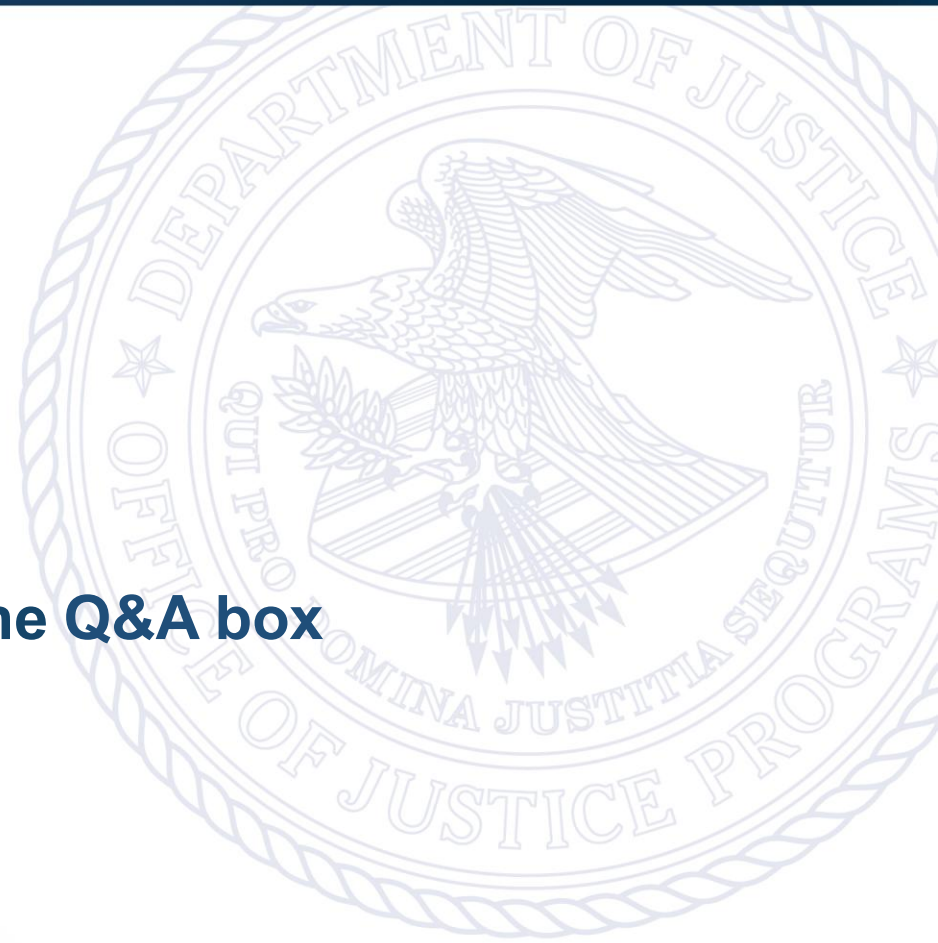
- <https://nij.ojp.gov/funding/frequently-asked-questions-about-applying-grants-and-cooperative-agreements>



Questions?

Please enter your questions into the Q&A box

Send to All Panelists



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